

SEASIDE RANCHOS SCHOOL SITE PURCHASED

City Now Has 7765 Voters, Count Shows

Total registration of voters in Torrance for the Nov. 2 general election is 7765 persons, which indicates a total population of 19,412, figuring 2½ persons for each name, according to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett.

This is an increase of 2207 over the registration of 5558 for the April 12, 1948, city election last spring, or some 40 per cent, Bartlett pointed out. When the next count was taken as of last April 13 registration for the June presidential primary, 6623 had registered by April 22, a gain of nearly 1100 in six weeks, Bartlett's records show.

By parties, Torrance still has more than a Democratic majority, the parties being divided as follows:

Democrat	4946
Republican	2286
Independent Progressive	481
Prohibition	7
Decline to state	472
Miscellaneous	23

TOTAL 7765
The Torrance City Planning Commission estimated last week that the city had a population of 18,149, and another estimate will be forthcoming soon. The average of the two places the population estimate at 18,780.

Police, Fire and Water in New Network

When installations of new radio transmitting and receiving sets are completed within the next 10 days, the Torrance police, fire, and water departments will be linked together by radio to afford better protection and service to the residents of Torrance. Chief of Police John Strohm revealed yesterday.

Purchased at a cost of approximately \$5000, the new equipment consists of four receivers for the fire department, including one in the truck at Walteria, five sets for use in patrol cars, and one set in the water department's emergency truck.

Installation of the new equipment was made necessary by a recent ruling of the Federal Communications Commission which removed all police radio stations from the lower frequency band used at the present time. Heavy military traffic on the lower frequency necessitated the change to a higher frequency, which is beyond the range of most home radios.

With the change from AM to FM a radio link also will be established between Redondo, El Segundo, Hermosa, and Manhattan Beach that will greatly facilitate the handling of emergency calls between the four bay-area cities. Los Angeles police calls, which are broadcast over a much lower frequency, will remain within the receiving band of most home radios.

Chappie New Foundry Head for National

Hubert Chappie, veteran of 29 years in foundry operations, has been appointed superintendent of the foundry at the Torrance plant of The National Supply Company. The announcement is made by J. D. Spalding, works manager of the National Supply Torrance plant.

Chappie was superintendent of the foundry department of Columbia Steel's Torrance plant at the time that company discontinued its foundry operations here.

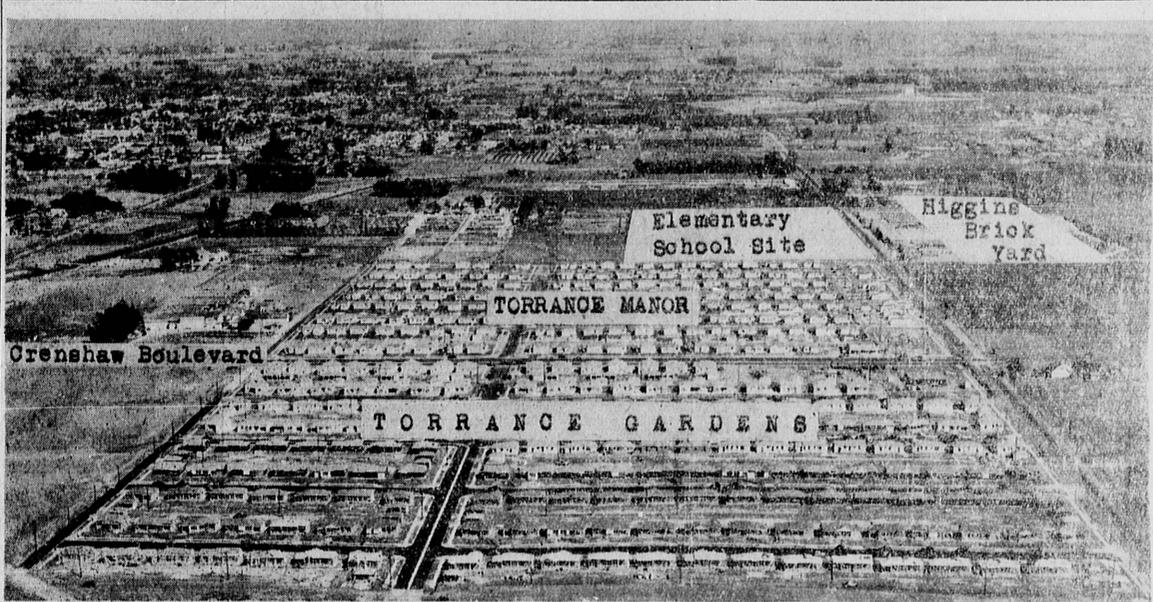
Widely known in foundry circles, Chappie began foundry work in 1919 in Milwaukee, and in succeeding years became affiliated with such steel foundries as Lebanon Steel, Texas Electric Steel Casting Company, before he came to Columbia.

YOUTH BAND PAYMENT

Payment of \$900 to the Torrance Area Youth Bands, Inc., for promotion of music during the three-month period of July, August and September, 1948, has been authorized by the City Council.

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MORE NEW HOMES—This aerial photograph of a section of North Torrance, looking east, shows the new Torrance Gardens subdivision nearing completion in the foreground, and the new North Torrance elementary school site in the background, east of Torrance Manor. The school site on the north side of 174th street, is directly opposite the original Higgins Brick Yard. Another new subdivision of 73 new dwellings is proposed north of the new school site. Photograph was taken from a point over Prairie avenue, and shows the westward growth of the area. (Pacific Air Photo for Torrance Chamber of Commerce.)

City Growing; It's in Million Dollar Bracket

Torrance is growing. The City of Torrance now does a \$1,000,000 annual business, it is revealed by the statement of the city's "Summary of Cash Receipts and Disbursements," for the last fiscal year, published as a legal notice on Page 4-C of today's Herald.

Total money accounted for by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett as of last June 30 was \$1,007,297.47, according to the statement. The statement also reflects the city's improved financial condition. There was a total of \$215,674.40 on hand as of last June 30, as compared with only \$37,585.18 on July 1, 1947, when the fiscal year opened.

Baptists Lay Cornerstone

Cornerstone for the new Torrance First Baptist church at Manuel avenue and Carson street will be laid next Sunday at 12:15 p.m., immediately following the Sunday morning service. The public is invited to attend.

A membership roster, documents pertaining to the history of the local church, a service flag and the names of the building committee and the trustees of the church will be placed in the cornerstone when it is laid.

Dr. Frank Kepner, executive secretary of the Southern California Baptist Convention, will assist the pastor, the Rev. C. M. Northrup, at the ceremony. The new building has been under construction for several months but will not be completed until early in 1949, the pastor said.



NEW CHIEF—Hubert Chappie, new superintendent of the foundry at National Supply Company.

Chamber Asks School Needs Be Reviewed

Growing need for additional school facilities in South Torrance and the announced intention of school officials to condemn a portion of the Weston property for this purpose, was reviewed at the last regular meeting of the board of directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

It was revealed that the present Walteria Elementary school was providing educational facilities for nearly 200 children from the Seaside Ranchos and Hollywood Riviera districts.

Children enrolled from these areas have over-taxed the Walteria school facilities, to the apparent detriment of children now living in Walteria as well as for those who will enter kindergarten next year, it was pointed out.

It was therefore recommended:

1. That the Board of Education be asked to provide school facilities at Seaside Ranchos at a site already selected.
2. That the present Walteria School be improved to provide the added facilities needed there.
3. That further consideration be given to location of a school on the Weston Ranch, where some 1400 dwelling units are to be built, according to plans announced by K. Sande Senness.

On motion of the directors, President C. T. Rippey appointed a committee consisting of Charles V. Jones, chairman; Dean L. Sears and Robert I. Plomert Jr. to meet with Torrance school officials and to convey to them the Chamber's suggestions, with the thought in mind of re-establishing cooperation in the best interests of the school children and for the development of Torrance.

Just Traces All the WM Could Record

Weekend spirits were dampened but that is about all, according to the Weather Man, who claimed his rain gauge showed only .02 of an inch fell last Sunday and on Monday he recorded only a trace.

A trace, he informed us, is about half the thickness of a cigarette paper. Speaking of paper, he handed us a sheet of it which read:

Oct.	Max.	Min.	Rain.
13	69	50	
14	69	50	
15	72	58	
16	70	55	.02
17	71	59	
18	70	59	Trace

City Gets Bids to Paint Library and Auditorium

Sounds like spring! Bids for painting the Torrance Civic Auditorium and the Public Library are being sought this week by City Engineer George Stevens, upon instructions from the City Council.

Stevens also is obtaining bids for the installation of acoustical ceiling material and public address systems in the council chambers and in the Civic Auditorium.

Rock Thrown in House for Second Time

For the second time since the current oil strike has been in effect, C. C. Hendrix, 2260 Torrance boulevard, reported to Torrance police that unknown assailants had thrown a rock through his living room window, the records of the police department show.

Hendrix, an employee of Union Oil Company, showed police the rock, about the size of a baseball, that crashed through the window last week and smashed a glass coffee table in the room. Two other large stones were found by police on the outside of the house.



HEAR CONCERT ARTISTS—Officers of Torrance Community Concerts, the sponsoring organization for this year's series of programs, are shown here preparing to listen to a sound motion picture of some of the artists in recital. This motion picture followed the organization dinner at the Woman's clubhouse Monday night. Left to right: James Lynch, president; Mrs. Robert S. Sleeth, secretary; Mrs. John Beeman, general chairman; James R. Wilkes, first vice-chairman; Mrs. Margaret Blackburn, Columbia Concerts representative; Mrs. Gilbert Derouin, Robert J. Deininger, treasurer; and Mrs. Lee Stamps.

Torrance Joins in Ceremonies Opening New U. S. Steel Plant

Official opening today of the new cold reduction sheet and tin plate mill at the Pittsburg, Calif. plant of Columbia Steel Company, western subsidiary of United States Steel, is being witnessed by Torrance and Los Angeles industrial and civic leaders. It marks the addition of more than 300,000 net tons annually to the supply of quality steel products made by west coast steel plants for western industry.

Otto A. Kresse, general superintendent of the Torrance works, will be introduced as the first man to pour steel in California, during a broadcast of a portion of the official ceremonies over KECA beginning at 12 noon today.

Representing the City of Torrance will be Mayor J. Hugh Sherfy Jr. and Councilmen A. L. Jackson, Robert Haggard, Nick Draie and City Engineer.

Membership Drive Will End This Week

Sale of memberships in the Torrance Community Concert Series for 1948-49 was well under way today, following the kick-off dinner held Monday evening at the Woman's Clubhouse, attended by approximately 50 music lovers. Arrangements for the dinner were made by Mrs. John Oursler, dinner chairman.

Mrs. Margaret Blackburn, representative of the Columbia Artists Management, presented a sound motion picture of some of the Columbia artists in recital. While a long list of artists is available to Torrance, the caliber of the artists obtained is determined solely by the success of this week's membership drive.

Selection of the artists is to be made by the local committee Saturday afternoon, as the membership drive continues.

Plans for North Torrance School Also Authorized

Authority to open escrow proceedings for purchase of the Seaside Ranchos elementary school site was voted Tuesday night by the Torrance Board of Education. Purchase price is to be \$18,800, and the 12-acre site is being acquired from Ben Haggard, subdivider of the Ranchos.

Zone Variance for Pittsburgh Plant Sought

Hearing on a zoning variance for a parcel of industrial property at Crenshaw boulevard and the extension of Dominguez street, which is being sold to the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company's paint division, has been set by the Torrance City Planning Commission.

Hearing on the matter has been set for Wednesday, Nov. 3 at 8 p.m. The property now is in the A-1 or light agricultural district, and the city proposes to place the property in an M-1 zone, which will permit heavy manufacturing.

The property is described as Lot 8 in Tract 7873, and includes a portion of the Santa Fe right-of-way which will serve the new plant. The Commission took the action on its own motion, to clear the way for the new industrial plant, which otherwise would need a change of zone.

Water Flows Through New Feeder Lines

A second feeder line to North Torrance, assuring that section of the city a supply of water at all times, was completed Tuesday afternoon with the "cut-in" by workers of the new line along 190th street, W. William Stanger, superintendent of the Torrance Water Department, revealed this week.

The new line will eventually provide more fire protection for North Torrance as connections for seven additional fireplugs have been installed along the 7000-foot line.

Work on another line, approximately 2000 feet long, is expected to begin next week, according to Stanger. The line will run along 174th street, west of Prairie avenue.

Progress on still another supply line intended to service the area north and east of Arlington avenue and 174th street to the city's boundaries has been slowed somewhat while water board officials attempt to raise \$35,000 additional funds to finance the project.

Laying of line along Newton avenue to Ocean avenue in Walteria will begin as soon as the city has graded the streets.

Exchange Has 4615 Phones, Count Shows

In the last 10 years the number of telephones in service in the Pacific West has been doubled, it was announced today by A. B. Smith, manager of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. A gain of more than 250,000 telephones in the company's coast-wide territory thus far in 1948 has brought the total to an all-time high of 3,659,000.

The increase this year is about five and a half times that of the corresponding period in 1938 when a gain of only 45,800 telephones was recorded. Ten years ago—after 60 years of operation—the company had 1,829,000 telephones in service.

More than 1,000,000 of the telephones in service today were added in a little over three years since the end of the war. The manager said that this unprecedented increase reflects the tremendous development of the coast and shows the all-out effort of the company to provide for the huge demand.

In the Torrance exchange during the last 10 years 3424 telephones have been added to increase the number in service today to 4615.

Despite the vast expansion program of the telephone company in providing more and more facilities to serve the needs of each community, there still remains a current backlog of about 90,000 applications for service in Southern California.

Second Horse Falls in Sump, Rider Injured

Breaking through a crust of dirt and oil a horse became entangled in an oil sump near the Torrance city line in Redondo Beach last Friday and threw the rider, Edward Delmar of Los Angeles, who sustains internal injuries listed as serious by the rider's physician.

The accident marked the second time this month that a horse has become trapped in an abandoned oil sump.